



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

September 29, 2008



This aerial of the East Capitol Grounds shows the CVC project site as it appeared on September 23, 2008. All major historical elements from the 1870s, including lanterns, fountains, seatwalls and lampposts, have been returned to their original locations. Most of the landscaping in the House and Senate “eggs” and along the CVC entrance zones has been completed. The central promenade – one of the character-defining elements of the original Frederick Law Olmsted-designed landscape – has been reestablished on grade with the rest of the East Front Plaza.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 9/29/08 through 10/3/08

- CVC personnel, including the executive staff, will begin moving into their new offices inside the CVC.
- The CVC exhibits contractor has completed the installation of image panels and historic artifacts in the House and Senate history cases. Installation of the historic documents in the Wall of Aspirations is expected to begin next week. The Wall of Aspirations will house more than 40 historic documents at any one time.
- Plaster work is nearly complete on the plaster model of the Statue of Freedom in Emancipation Hall.
- Crews continue to clean the stone floors throughout the CVC. Follow-on crews continue applications of a stone sealant that provides protection to the stone while giving it a non-slip surface.
- Technicians continue to fine-tune the audio-visual systems in the Congressional Auditorium and the North and South Orientation Theaters.
- Throughout the CVC, technicians continue final acceptance testing on the facility’s complex fire and life-safety systems. A temporary Certificate of Occupancy issued in July has allowed personnel to begin occupying spaces.
- Painters, carpenters, plumbers, masons, electricians, metal workers, cleaning crews and other professionals continue to address punch-list items throughout the facility.
- Rigging have nearly completed the transfer of statues inside the Capitol to the CVC. A total of 21 statues have now been relocated from the Capitol to the CVC and 14 of those statues are in their new permanent locations.



Sarah Winnemucca, one of Nevada's two state statues, stands in a prominent location in the CVC's Emancipation Hall.

Next Week – 10/6/08 – 10/10/08

- Technicians will continue the final testing process for the CVC's complex fire and life-safety systems.
- Punchlist work will continue throughout interior spaces as crews work on millwork, wall stone, floor stone, grout lines, painted surfaces, ceiling panels, plaster work, doors, and other finish materials.
- An exhibit contractor will begin the installation of historic documents in the CVC Exhibition Hall.
- Masons will continue grout work and other stone detail work at the Rotunda and Gallery levels in the East Front of the Capitol while stone floors are sealed with a protective, non-slip coating.
- Metal workers may resume installing interior bronze handrails along the south staircase in the East Front Extension.
- Crews will continue installation of the terrazzo floor for the tunnel to the Library of Congress.
- Waterproofing work is expected to be completed around the large skylights above Emancipation Hall.
- Outside, landscape crews will continue restoration of the grounds as the CVC construction fences are removed.